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SEP 27 '22

"THE DRIFTER"

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A Malobee Production

Featuring

Leo Maloney

CAST

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Andy Miles, drifter ..... Leo Maloney

"Mother" Benson ..... Florence Lee

Alice Benson, her daughter .... Josephine Hill

Amos Jones, assayer ..... Whitehorse

"Red" Sarg ..... Bud Osborne

"Mother" Benson, who ran the only restruant in Rock Springs, had bought the Hick's Place to furnish her with a home, and when she found that the property was worthless she almost broke down. Her daughter Alice had some hopes that Amos Jones, who had sold them the property, might buy it back again. But hopes of getting money back from Jones, once he had gotten hold of it, were always vain.

Into town drifted Andy Miles, a happy-go-lucky wandering cowpuncher and jack of all trades. With him he brought some rocks from a claim he had staked while prospecting on the side, and these he took to the assayer, a post also filled by Amos Jones. At least in theory, for actually all the work was done by "Chub", Jones' Assistant, a fat boy just bright enough to do the work and just stupid enough to let Jones bully him into working for not much salary while Jones took all the credit. To pay the assayer in advance took Andy's last cent; for change Jones gave him only a fifty cent piece - and that counterfeit!

Andy's next step was to get his horse fed; he took it to a corral and paid for the feed with the counterfeit, whose true nature he had not yet discovered. A search for a job showed that there was nothing in town to do, except a job washing dishes in "Mother" Benson's restruant. Andy wasn't anxious to do anything in a restruant except eat, but he figured he couldn't eat if he

didn't work, so he tried dishwashing.

Meanwhile into town had ridden "Red" Sarg, the town tough, a relic of Rock Spring's frontier days. To Jones he brought for assay some rocks he had picked up on the Hick's Place, figuring that if they assayed good Jones could buy the place back from the Bensons and the two could go halves on the mining venture. Red then went down to the restruant, where he tried a little flirtation with Alice Benson. But Alice disliked him, and Andy in protecting her got Red's gun and rode him out of the restruant. Red promptly set out to get another gun with which he could return and "get" Andy.

An assay on Red's rock completed, and highly favorable, Jones set out to rebuy the Hick's Place. Wondering curiously about this change of heart, Andy went to get his own assay report. This showed his rocks as worthless, but while there Chub foolishly told him Jones' reason for wanting the Hick's property. Andy hastily started back to prevent the sale; but as he gained the street he was stopped by the corral man, who had found that he had been given a counterfeit coin. At the same moment appeared Red, who declared he should have first chance to Andy. As the two men quarreled about this, Andy ran. The two pursued and reached him before he could get into the restruant. It would have been better for them if they hadn't; in the fight Andy knocked them both out.

Andy raced up the stairs, but too late. The deal was completed, and Alice refused to let Andy force Jones to resell them the property. Suddenly in burst Chub. He had made a mistake in the names on the assay reports; the rocks from the Hick's Place were no good, while it was Andy's that held the gold! Furious, Jones departed, while the penniless Andy made an agreement with Alice whereby she might furnish the money to develop his mine. Thus they became partners, forming an arrangement which was to be a strictly business partnership - at least temporarily.



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